

Applicant : B. Jack Longley
Serial No.: 09/980,572
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In the claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-90. (canceled)

91. (new) A method of preventing or treating contact dermatitis in a subject which comprises administering to the subject an antibody or portion thereof that binds to kit protein in an amount effective to inhibit the kinase enzymatic reaction of kit protein and to inhibit the stem cell factor signaling pathway, thereby preventing or treating contact dermatitis in the subject.

92. (new) The method of claim 91, wherein the subject is selected from the group consisting of a cow, a horse, a sheep, a pig, a dog, a cat, a rabbit and a primate.

93. (new) The method of claim 91, wherein the subject is a human being.

94. (new) The method of claim 91, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

95. (new) The method of claim 94, wherein the monoclonal antibody is a human antibody, a humanized antibody or a chimeric antibody.

96. (new) The method of claim 94, wherein the monoclonal

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antibody is an anti-c-kit antibody.

97. (new) The method of claim 91, wherein the antibody is designated ACK2.

98. (new) The method of claim 91, wherein the administration is intralesional, intraperitoneal, intramuscular, subcutaneous, intravenous, liposome-mediated delivery, transmucosal, intestinal, topical, nasal, oral, anal, ocular or otic delivery.